

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNIDO, OCON

SUBJECT: ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD -
INTERGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT - AGENDA ITEM 10

1. DOC. ID/B/186 IS THE SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF IDB RES. 44 (IX) CONCERNING THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT. IT INDICATES THAT WHILE GAINS HAVE BEEN MADE IN SOME RESPECTS, AND PLANS ARE BEING DEVELOPED TO GIVE FURTHER IMPETUS TO ACTION IN THIS FIELD, PROGRESS IN BOTH THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT AND THEIR EMPLOYMENT BY UNIDO REMAINS SLOW.

2. INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT: THE REPORT NOTES (PARA 2) THAT THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION IN THIS FIELD LIES WITH THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED. VARIOUS ACTIONS BY UNIDO DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT GOVERNMENTS TO MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION AND TO CONTRIBUTE TO JOINT EFFORTS WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM ARE DESCRIBED. FOR EXAMPLE, THE SECRETARIAT RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN UNIDO-SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS, A POINT THAT WAS STRESSED BY THE U.S. DURING LAST YEAR'S DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT.

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3. EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN BY UNIDO: (A) THE SECRETARIAT REPORTS THE APPOINTMENT OF FOUR FEMALE OFFICERS IN 1976 AND THE PROMOTION INTO THE PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY OF SIX GENERAL SERVICE STAFF MEMBERS, ALL WOMEN, THE LARGEST NUMBER OF SUCH PROMOTIONS IN UNIDO'S HISTORY (PARAS 12-13). THE SECRETARIAT HAS ALSO PREPARED AN INVENTORY OF GENERAL SERVICE STAFF MEMBERS (MOST OF WHOM ARE WOMEN) WHO POSSESS PRIMA

FACIE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS TO ASSIST IN PLACEMENT AND TRAINING ASSIGNMENTS (PARA 15). NEVERTHELESS, THE TREND OF FEMALE REPRESENTATION IN THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF IS NOT ENCOURAGING. AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1975, THERE WERE 34 WOMEN OFFICERS IN A TOTAL PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF 285; AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1976, THE COMPARABLE FIGURES WERE 38 OF 301. (B) THE SECRETARIAT STATES THAT IT CONSIDERS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE MORE FEMALE PROJECT EXPERTS IN THE FIELD, BUT SEES NO TREND DEVELOPING IN THIS DIRECTION. IT NOTES THAT A BASIC REQUIREMENT FOR PROGRESS IN THIS RESPECT IS THE NOMINATION OF MORE WOMEN CANDIDATES BY NATIONAL RECRUITMENT SERVICES AND CITES A RECENT ANALYSIS (PARA 18) INDICATING THAT THE SUBJECTS MOST COMMONLY STUDIED BY WOMEN AT UNIVERSITY LEVEL WOULD APPEAR TO FIT THEM BETTER FOR ASSIGNMENTS IN SUCH AREAS OF ACTIVITIY AS THOSE COVERED BY ILO, UNESCO AND WHO. THE REPORT ALSO NOTES THAT UNIDO WILL MAKE AN EXTRA EFFORT TO LOCATE WOMEN CANDIDATES FOR SIDFA POSTS.

4. WE ASSUME U.S. DEL SHOULD EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE SLOW PROGRESS IN THIS MATTER AND CONTINUE STRONGLY TO SUPPORT APPROPRIATE ACTION BY UNIDO AND MEMBER COUNTRIES IN SUPPORT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF RES. 44 (IX).STIBRAVY

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